poignant in their entreaty to M. Doumergue and his colleagues to do something at once to save their country from imminent disruption. Miliu-koff, the eminent Russian jurist, and Maklakoff, the great Duma orator, made a passionate protest against the counsel of patience given them on this occasion :—

Russian appeal to the French

" At the very mention of the word 'patience' Maklakoff burst out:—

'We've had quite enough patience ! . . . Our patience is utterly exhausted ! Besides, if we don't act soon, the masses won't listen to us any longer.'

Maklakoff went on to remind us of Mirabeau's remark : 'Beware of asking for time ! Disaster never gives it!'[3]"*

The delegates, however, seemed to have felt some delicacy as to bringing pressure to bear upon the Czar in reference to the internal administration of the country of which he was the autocratic ruler. Sir George Buchanan had talked to him with great can-dour. His straightforwardness was rewarded with a reply the arrogance of which will always be quoted as one of the best examples of that haughtiness of spirit which prefaces a bad fall.† But there is nothing in the reports which indicate that any of the Allied

* "An Ambassador's Memoirs," M. Paléologue, p. 188.

† Sir G. Buchanan: "Your Majesty, if I may be

permitted to say so, has but one safe course open to you, namely to break down the barrier that separates you from your people and to regain their confidence." The Emperor : " Do you mean that I am to regain the confidence of my people or that they are to regain *my* confidence ? " (" My Mission to Russia," Sir G. Buchanan, Vol. II, p. 46.)